

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 01818 011242Z

51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 034444

R 011155Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 281

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1818

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: CHARGES AGAINST THE THAI AMBASSADOR TO CAMBODIA

REF : BANGKOK A-415 OF 6 AUGUST 1970

1. THE "BANGKOK WORLD" REPORTED JANUARY 30 THAT THE THAI AMBASSADOR TO CAMBODIA, POLICE MAJ. GEN. CHANA SAMUTVANICH, IS UNDER OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION FOR ALLEGED SMUGGLING, AND AN ILLICIT RELATIONSHIP WITH A FRENCH-VIETNAMESE GIRL IN PHNOM PENH. CHANA IS REPORTEDLY CHARGED WITH USING MILITARY PLANES TO TRANSPORT MERCHANDISE FROM BANGKOK THAT HE LATER SOLD FOR HIGH PROFIT THROUGH THE PHNOM PENH AMBASSADORS CLUB WHICH HE ORGANIZED FOUR OR FIVE MONTHS AGO.
2. THE "NATION" REPORTED JANUARY 31 THAT CHANA'S SON, DR. CHAIANAND SAMUTVANICH, WELL KNOWN MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, HAS COME OUT IN DEFENSE OF HIS FATHER SAYING THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) APPROVED THE ARRANGEMENT TO TRANSPORT GOODS TO THE DIPLOMATIC CLUB AND THAT THERE ARE DOCUMENTS TO PROVE IT. HE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE GIRL. CHAIANAND HAS SUGGESTED THAT THESE CHARGES ARE ALSO PART OF A CAMPAIGN TO DESTROY HIS OWN POLITICAL CAREER.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 01818 011242Z

3. COMMENT: AN MFA OFFICIAL TOLD US JANUARY 31 THAT THE

FOREIGN MINISTER HAD BEEN WASTING THE BETTER PART OF
THAT DAY AND THE PREVIOUS ONE DEFLECTING PRESS QUERIES
ABOUT CHANA. WE SUSPECT MFA WILL NOT FIGHT TO RETAIN
CHANA WHO IS NOT A CAREER DIPLOMAT. ALTHOUGH AS A FORMER
PRACHINBURI GOVERNOR HE HAS LONG BEEN INVOLVED IN THAI/
CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS, HE OWES HIS APPOINTMENT TO DEPARTED
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIEN. PHNOM PENH
MAY SOON HAVE ANOTHER UNEMPLOYED MISTRESS ON THE MARKET.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

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